

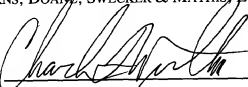
REMARKS

The above-captioned patent application has been amended to comply with 37 C.F.R.
§ 1.84(b)(2) (effective date November 7, 2000). Prompt and favorable action on the merits
is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: November 1, 2000